



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park of
American Samoa

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National Park of American Samoa News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New National Park Trail Opens in Vatia Village

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—After six months of intense work, the National Park of American Samoa's trail crew completed a new hiking adventure in Vatia Village—the Tuafanua Trail. This 1.1 miles / 1.8 km trail takes hikers through lush rainforest to a ridge-top with ocean views and down to a secluded, rocky beach with views of Pola Island. This moderate trail takes about one hour to complete and is now open for public enjoyment.

To assist with the trail's construction, the National Park of American Samoa hired villagers from Vatia in addition to the national park's wildland fire crew. Trail Crew Leader Mino Fialua said, "The trail crew overcame multiple challenges of rough terrain to create this new experience for residents and visitors to the national park."

Sections of this trail cross private land and the national park thanks the Vatia families for allowing this unique experience to be created.

The National Park of American Samoa will continue to develop new opportunities to explore natural areas. The national park offers over 25 miles / 40 km of trails on Tutuila, Ta'u, and Ofu islands that range from easy rainforest hikes to adventurous, steep climbs up some of the islands volcanic remnants.

Visit the National Park Visitor Center in Ottoville for more information or to pickup a free *Day Hikes* brochure.

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The National Park of American Samoa was established in 1988 to preserve the coral reefs, tropical rainforest, archeological and cultural resources, the habitat of fruit bats, and to provide educational

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opportunities for visitors and residents. National park lands and waters are leased from villages and the American Samoa Government through a long-term agreement with the National Park Service.

For more information about visiting the National Park of American Samoa, call 699-3982, email NPSA_Info@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/npsa. Also, visit the national park's Facebook and Twitter pages.

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